Greene County Extension Council

Every Iowa county has an elected extension council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Agriculture
- Community Partners
- Adult & Youth Education
- Leadership

Ag & Natural Resources

Greene County hosted a two night Farm Succession program in September this year. This program is designed to help families that are struggling with making succession plans and helps them visualize what they want for their estate plan and how to achieve it. During these sessions, the group discussed Language of Estate Planning, Setting Goals, Implementing Your Estate Plan, Gift, Estate & Inheritance Taxes and Having the Family Conversation. Tim Christenson, ISU Extension & Outreach’s Farm Management Specialist and David Morain, Attorney at Hoyt & Morain Law Firm were the speakers during the event.

Each winter, Greene County Extension hosts a series of Ag Coffees. Each Ag Coffee has a different topic based on what is going on in agriculture at the time. Topics have varied from Securing Your Farm Property to Palmer Amaranth. Ag Coffees are held monthly on Friday mornings with donuts and coffee provided. Each Ag Coffee is sponsored by a local business in Greene County making the cost FREE for participants.

Extension Council Members

We want communities and farmers to thrive, and families and children to be healthy. And eventually we want to turn the world over to the next generation better than we found it.

Bob Smith  
Extension Council Chair

Bruce Bahnsen  
Council Member

Pam Olerich  
Council Member

Terry Torneten  
Regional Director

Tom Heater  
Council Member

Jill Rasmussen  
Council Member

Bruce Bahnsen  
Council Member

Shari Minnehan  
Council Member

Doug Rieder  
Council Member

Kyle Niles  
Council Member

Jill Rasmussen  
Council Member

Doug Rieder  
Council Member

Jessi Riley  
Council Member
Communities

During ISU Extension and Outreach Week (April 8-12), Greene County offered a variety of programs to our constituents. Each day we covered a different area of Extension:

- Crocheting 101
- Electric Pressure Cooker Meals
- Managing Stress: Strategies that Work
- Spring into Spring Gardening Tips
- Java Juice (community coffee)

Volunteers and ISU Extension and Outreach professionals helped organize and present during the week making ISU Extension and Outreach Week 2019 a success.

ISU Extension and Outreach in Greene County was the community partner of Mrs. Smith’s second grade class room in the Greene County School District. Over the course of the year, we met the class at the school, at the Extension Office and at the Greene County Fairgrounds to showcase what our office can provide. We discussed agriculture, food & nutrition and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

ISU Extension and Outreach
Greene County
104 W Washington St
Jefferson, IA 50129
515-386-2138
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Human Sciences/Families

Kids in the Kitchen is always a popular summer camp for Greene County youth. Participants learned how to make jam during a six hour day camp. Youth were able to start the jam making process from the very beginning. ISU Extension & Outreach’s Food & Nutrition Specialist, Ann Parker was the facilitator.

Twenty-two 5th-8th graders participated in Greene County’s Babysitting Basics Course in October. The six hour instructional course covered a variety of topics on how to be a great babysitter. Speakers from the local fire department, sheriff’s office, public health and a local mom came to bring their expertise to the participants. Youth learned how to make healthy snacks, a first aid kit and received a book to start their “bag of tricks” before they begin babysitting.

4-H & Youth Development

Greene County has nearly 200 4-H’ers and over 55 Clover Kids. In March, Greene County Young Leaders hosted a Beef Burger Supper. The activity was 100% youth organized and led. The group formed committees; marketing, food and silent auction. Money raised during the event went towards paying for the Movie Night at the fair and other activities throughout the year.

During National 4-H Week, Greene County 4-H held an Art on the Fly Workshop were youth learned how to create art pieces using a piece of wood, paint and a stencil. Local artist, Jolene Peters, led the group.

Counties & House State Extension Staff

Lori Mannel
County Director

Kayla Willms
County Youth & 4-H Coordinator

Cindy Adamson
Office Assistant

Ann Parker
Human Science Specialist, Nutrition & Wellness; housed in Greene County